

Message Text

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12

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OIC-02 /100 W

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR UN XF

SUBJ: THIRD COMMITTEE DEBATE ON INTRODUCTION OF ZIONISM RESOLUTION
UNDER RACIAL DISCRIMINATION ITEM

REF: USUN 5005 AND USUN 4977

1. SUMMARY--DESPITE SOME EUROPEAN AND LATIN SUPPORT THE US DID NOT SUCCEED IN PREVENTING THE INTRODUCTION OF A RESOLUTION EQUATING ZIONISM WITH RACISM. THE RESOLUTION WILL BE FORMALLY INTRODUCED OCTOBER 16 USUN IS EXPLORING THE POSSIBILITY OF DEFERRING THE RESOLUTION TO NEXT YEAR. END SUMMARY

2. IN DEBATE AFTERNOON OCTOBER 15 ON AMENDMENTS EQUATING ZIONISM WITH RACISM, SOMALIA PROPOSED TO INTRODUCE A REVISION OF THE AMENDMENTS ON ZIONISM IN THE FORM OF A SEPARATE "PROPOSAL." SOMALIA ALSO PROPOSED THAT IF ANY PROCEDURAL OBJECTIONS WERE MADE, THE COMMITTEE SHOULD MAKE ITS DECISION ON THE BASIS OF RULE 125, WHICH REQUIRES ONLY A SIMPLE MAJORITY TO WIN.

3. THE US OPPOSED THE SOMALIAN PROPOSAL, ARGUING THAT RULE 123, WHICH REQUIRED A TWO-THIRDS VOTE, WAS THE APPROPRIATE RULE. THE US, JOINED BY BARBADOS AND THE UK, ARGUED THAT THE DEADLINE SET BY THE COMMITTEE FOR THE INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS HAD PASSED. THE BRITISH AND COSTA RICANS ALSO
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REQUESTED AN OPINION FROM THE UN LEGAL ADVISER ON THIS MATTER.

ARABS, JOINED BY CUBA, MADASCAR, AND THE UKRAINE SSR,
HEADED THE OPPOSITION TO THE APPLICATION OF RULE 123 AND
HEARING A LEGAL OPINION

4. IRAQ MOVED TO CLOSE DEBATE ON THE APPLICABILITY OF RULE
123 VERSUS 125(YES-72, NO-27, ABS. 26). DESPITE STRONG
AND REPEATED REQUESTS BY THE US, UK, AND COSTA RICA FOR
THE CHAIR TO SEEK A LEGAL OPINION ON APPLICATION OF RULE
123, THE CHAIR (CZECHOSLOVAKIA) REFUSED
TO DO SO.

5. RULE 125 WSAS CHOSEN BY A VOTE OF (72-24(US)-28).

6. THE COMMITTEE THEN DECIDED 75 TO 22(US) WITH 26 ABSTENTIONS
TO ALLOW SOMALIA TO INTRODUCE ITS REVISED AMENDMENTS IN THE
FORM OF A RESOLUTION. AGAIN, MOST OF THE EUROPEANS JOINED
THE US IN OPPOSING THIS MOTION,

7. SOMALIA SUBMITTED THE DRAFT RESOLUTION TODAY TO THE
SECRETARIAT FOR CIRCULATION AS A COMMITTEE DOCUMENT. IT
WILL BE FORMALLY INTRODUCED TOMORROW.

8. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH CLEARLY RULE 123 APPLIED AND REPRE-
SENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARIAT SO INFORMED THE CHAIRMAN,
HE CONSISTENTLY REFUSED TO TAKE RULING EITHER ON THIS
MATTER OR ON CALLING LEGAL ADVISER FOR OPINION AS
REQUESTED.

9. WE BELIEVE THERE IS STILL AN OUTSIDE CHANCE OF DEFERRING
THE UNACCEPTABLE RESOLUTION TO NEXT YEAR DESPITE TODAY'S
LOPSIDED VOTES. CERTAINLY MUCH SENTIMENT EXISTS FOR SUCH
A MOVE AMONG INFLUENTIAL BLACK AFRICANS (NIGERIA, KENYA,
GHANA, IVORY COAST AMONG OTHERS). DIFFICULTY IS THAT
NONE WANTS TO TAKE THE LEAD AND FORMALLY PROPOSE DEFERRAL.
WE ARE EXPLORING SCENARIO OF BRAZIL OR CANADA PROPOSING
DEFERRAL TOMORROW, TO BE FOLLOWED BY BLACK AFRICAN
STATEMENTS SUPPORTING MOVE.
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